

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
TEXARKANA DIVISION**

**Health Choice Group, LLC, on behalf  
of The United States of America, et al.,**

**Plaintiffs,**

v.

**Bayer Corporation, et al.,**

**Defendants.**

**Civil Action No. 5:17-126-RWS-CMC**

**FIRST AMENDED DOCKET CONTROL ORDER**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the following schedule of deadlines is in effect until further order of this Court:

<b>Current Date</b>	<b>Amended Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
3 DAYS after conclusion of Trial		<p>Parties to file <b>Motion to Seal Trial Exhibits</b>, if they wish to seal any highly confidential exhibits.</p> <p><b>EXHIBITS: See Order below regarding exhibits.</b></p>
October 28, 2019	June 22, 2020	<p><b>*9:00 a.m. JURY TRIAL before Judge Robert W. Schroeder III, Texarkana, Texas.</b></p> <p>For planning purposes, parties shall be prepared to start the evidentiary phase of trial immediately following jury selection.</p>
October 21, 2019	June 15, 2020	<p><b>*9:00 a.m. JURY SELECTION before Judge Robert W. Schroeder III, Texarkana, Texas.</b></p>
October 2, 2019	June 2, 2020	<p><b>10:00 a.m. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE before Judge Caroline Craven, Texarkana, Texas.</b></p> <p>All pending motions will be heard. Lead trial counsel must attend the pretrial conference.</p>
September 25, 2019	March 25, 2020	<p><b>File a Notice of Time Requested for (1) voir dire, (2) opening statements, (3) direct and cross examinations, and (4) closing arguments.</b></p>

September 25, 2019	March 25, 2020	<b>File Responses to Motions <i>in Limine</i>.</b>
September 18, 2019	March 18, 2020	<p><b>File Motions <i>in Limine</i> and pretrial objections</b></p> <p>The parties are <b>ORDERED</b> to meet and confer to resolve any disputes before filing any motion <i>in limine</i> or objection to pretrial disclosures.</p>
September 18, 2019	March 18, 2020	<p><b>File Joint Final Pretrial Order, Joint Proposed Jury Instructions with citation to authority and Form of the Verdict for jury trials.</b></p> <p>Parties shall use the pretrial order form on Judge Schroeder's website. Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law with citation to authority for issues tried to the bench.</p>
September 11, 2019	March 11, 2020	<b>Exchange Objections to Rebuttal Deposition Testimony.</b>
September 4, 2019	March 4, 2020	<p><b>Exchange Rebuttal Designations and Objections to Deposition Testimony.</b></p> <p>For rebuttal designations, cross examination line and page numbers to be included.</p> <p>In video depositions, each party is responsible for preparation of the final edited video in accordance with their parties' designations and the Court's rulings on objections.</p>
September 4, 2019	March 4, 2020	<p><b>Notice of Request for Daily Transcript or Real Time Reporting of Court Proceedings due.</b></p> <p>If a daily transcript or real time reporting of court proceedings is requested for trial or hearings, the party or parties making said request shall file a notice with the Court.</p>
August 21, 2019	February 21, 2020	<p><b>Exchange Pretrial Disclosures</b> (Witness List, Deposition Designations, and Exhibit List).</p> <p>Video and Stenographic Deposition Designation due. Each party who proposes to offer deposition testimony shall serve a disclosure identifying the line and page numbers to be offered.</p>
July 2, 2019	January 2, 2020	<p><b>Any Remaining Dispositive Motions due from all parties and any other motions that may require a hearing (including <i>Daubert</i> motions).</b></p> <p>Motions shall comply with Local Rule CV-56 and Local Rule CV-7. <u>Motions to extend page limits will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.</u></p>

		<p>For each motion filed, the moving party SHALL provide the Court with one (1) copy of the completed briefing (opening motion, response, reply, and if applicable, sur-reply), excluding exhibits, in a three-ring binder appropriately tabbed. All documents shall be double-sided and must include the CM/ECF header. These copies shall be delivered to Judge Schroeder's chambers in Texarkana as soon as briefing has completed.</p> <p><b>Respond to Amended Pleadings.</b></p>
June 22, 2019	December 22, 2019	<b>Mediation to be completed (if applicable).</b> If the parties agree to mediate this case, the mediation will be completed by this date.
June 22, 2019	December 22, 2019	<b>File Notice of Mediator</b>
June 14, 2019	December 14, 2019	<b>Deadline to Complete Expert Discovery</b>
May 24, 2019	November 24, 2019	<p><b>Parties designate rebuttal expert witnesses, rebuttal expert witness reports due.</b> Refer to Local Rules for required information.</p> <p>If, without agreement, a party serves a supplemental expert report after the rebuttal expert report deadline has passed, the serving party must file notice with the Court stating service has occurred and the reason why a supplemental report is necessary under the circumstances.</p>
April 19, 2019	October 19, 2019	<p><b>Parties with burden of proof designate expert witnesses.</b></p> <p>Expert witness reports due. Refer to Local Rules for required information.</p>
March 15, 2019	September 15, 2019	<b>Fact Discovery Deadline.</b>
February 15, 2019	August 15, 2019	<p><b>Deadline to Amend Pleadings.</b></p> <p>It is not necessary to file a Motion for Leave to Amend before the deadline to amend pleadings. It is necessary to file a Motion for Leave to Amend after the deadline.</p>
February 15, 2019	August 15, 2019	<b>Deadline to File Motions to Compel Regarding Discovery Disputes.</b>
February 15, 2019	August 15, 2019	<b>Deadline to Complete Document Production and Exchange Privilege Logs.</b>
		Counsel are expected to make good faith efforts to produce all required documents as soon as they are available and not wait until the substantial completion deadline.
15 days		<b>EXPECTED LENGTH OF TRIAL</b>

**\*Court designated date – not flexible without good cause - Motion Required**

In the event that any of these dates fall on a weekend or Court holiday, the deadline is modified to be the next Court business day.

The parties are directed to Local Rule CV-7(d), which provides in part that “[a] party’s failure to oppose a motion in the manner prescribed herein creates a presumption that the party does not controvert the facts set out by movant and has no evidence to offer in opposition to the motion.”

A party may request an oral hearing on a motion filed with the Court. Any such request shall be included in the text or in a footnote on the first page of the motion or any responsive pleading thereto. The Court does not hold telephonic hearings absent unusual circumstances.

**Other Limitations**

- (a) The following excuses will not warrant a continuance or justify a failure to comply with the discovery deadline:
  - (i) The fact that there are motions for summary judgment or motions to dismiss;
  - (ii) The fact that one or more of the attorneys is set for trial in another court on the same day, unless the other setting was made prior to the date of this order or was made as a special provision for the parties in the other case;
  - (iii) The failure to complete discovery prior to trial, unless the parties can demonstrate that it was impossible to complete discovery despite their good faith effort to do so.
- (b) Amendments to the Docket Control Order (“DCO”): Any motion to alter any date on the DCO shall take the form of a motion to amend the DCO. The motion shall include a chart in the format of the DCO that lists all of the remaining dates in one column (as above) and the proposed changes to each date in an additional adjacent column (if there is no change for a date the proposed date column should remain blank or indicate that it is unchanged). The motion to amend the DCO shall also include a proposed DCO in traditional two-column format that incorporates the requested changes and that also lists all remaining dates. In other words, the DCO in the proposed order should be complete such that one can clearly see all the remaining deadlines rather than needing to also refer to an earlier version of the DCO.
- (c) Motions in Limine: Each side is limited to one (1) motion *in limine* addressing no more than ten (10) disputed issues. In addition, the parties may file a joint motion *in limine* addressing any agreed issues. The Court views motions *in limine* as appropriate for those things that will create the proverbial “skunk in the jury box,” e.g., that, if mentioned in front of the jury before an evidentiary ruling can be made, would be so prejudicial that the Court could not alleviate the prejudice with an appropriate instruction. Rulings on motions *in limine* do not exclude evidence, but prohibit the

- party from offering the disputed testimony prior to obtaining an evidentiary ruling during trial.
- (d) Exhibits: Each side is limited to designating 250 exhibits for trial absent a showing of good cause. The parties shall use the exhibit list sample form on Judge Schroeder's website.
  - (e) Deposition Designations: Each side is limited to designating no more than ten (10) hours of deposition testimony for use at trial absent a showing of good cause. As trial approaches, if either side needs to designate more than ten (10) hours, the party may file a motion for leave and show good cause. All depositions to be read into evidence as part of the parties' case-in-chief shall be EDITED so as to exclude all unnecessary, repetitious, and irrelevant testimony; ONLY those portions which are relevant to the issues in controversy shall be read into evidence.
  - (f) Witness Lists: The parties shall use the witness list sample form on Judge Schroeder's website.

### **ORDER REGARDING EXHIBITS, EXHIBIT LISTS AND WITNESS LISTS:**

- A. On the first day of trial, each party is required to have:
  - (1) One copy of their respective original exhibits on hand. Each exhibit shall be properly labeled with the following information: Identified as either Plaintiff's or Defendant's Exhibit, the Exhibit Number and the Case Number.
  - (2) Three hard copies of each party's exhibit list and witness list on hand.
  - (3) One copy of all exhibits on USB Flash Drive(s) or portable hard drive(s). This shall be tendered to the Courtroom Deputy at the beginning of trial.
- B. The parties shall follow the process below to admit exhibits.
  - (1) *On the first day of trial*, each party shall tender a preadmitted list of exhibits it plans to admit into evidence. This list shall include all exhibits which are NOT objected to or to which the Court has already overruled an objection. To the extent there are exhibits with outstanding objections for which the parties need a ruling from the Court, those exhibits should be separately included on the list and designated accordingly to reflect a pending objection. Parties shall entitle the list “[Plaintiff’s/Defendant’s] List of Preadmitted Exhibits.” If, during the course of the day’s testimony, a party wishes to offer an objected exhibit into evidence, the party may move for admission at the time it wishes to use that exhibit with a witness. The Court will then hear the opposing party’s objection and will rule on the objection at that time.
  - (2) *On each subsequent day of trial*, the Court will commence by formally admitting all of the exhibits that were either unobjected to or allowed over objection and used during the previous day’s trial. The Court will ask for these exhibits to be read into the record and formally admitted into evidence at the beginning of that trial day. These will be the

exhibits deemed admitted at trial. The parties shall keep a separate running list of all exhibits admitted throughout the course of trial.

- (3) *At the conclusion of evidence*, each party shall read into the record any exhibit that was used but not previously admitted during the course of trial and then tender its final list of every admitted exhibit, entitled “[Plaintiff’s/Defendant’s] Final List of All Admitted Exhibits.” To the extent there are exhibits that were not admitted during the course of trial, but for which there is agreement that they should be provided to the jury, the parties must inform the Court of those exhibits at the conclusion of evidence. The Court will then determine whether those exhibits will be allowed into the jury room for deliberations.
- C. At the conclusion of evidence, each party shall be responsible for pulling those exhibits admitted at trial and shall tender those to the Courtroom Deputy, who will verify the exhibits and tender them to the jury for their deliberations. One representative from each side shall meet with the Courtroom Deputy to verify the exhibit list.
- D. At the conclusion of trial, all boxes of exhibits shall be returned to the respective parties and the parties are instructed to remove these exhibits from the courtroom.
- E. Within five business days of the conclusion of trial, each party shall submit to the Courtroom Deputy:
- (1) A Final Exhibit List of Exhibits Admitted During Trial in Word format.
  - (2) Two CDs containing admitted unsealed trial exhibits in PDF format. If the Court ordered any exhibits sealed during trial, the Sealed Exhibits shall be submitted on a separate CD. If tangible or over-sized exhibits were admitted, such exhibits shall be substituted with a photograph in PDF format.
  - (3) A disk containing the transcripts of Video Depositions played during trial, along with a copy of the actual video deposition.

**SIGNED this 30th day of January, 2019.**



CAROLINE M. CRAVEN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE